

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 210546
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

APPROVED BY IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

-----043918 182051Z /15

O 182023Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 9697

S E C R E T STATE 210546

FROM UNA

FOL RPT KABUL 6668 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO TEHRAN, ISLAMABAD,
NEW DELHI, MOSCOW, PEKING, CINCPAC & CINCEUR DTD 17 AUG 78

QUOTE: S E C R E T KABUL 6668

TAGS: PINS, PINR, AF

CINCPAC: FOR POLAD

CINCEUR: FOR POLAD

1. RADIO AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCED THE EVENING OF AUGUST 17 THAT
DEFENSE MINISTER GENERAL ABDUL QADER, CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF
GENERAL SHAHPOOR, AND DR. MIR ALI AKBAR (CHIEF OF JAMHURIAT HOSPITAL)
HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR ALLEGED IMPLICATION IN A PLOT AGAINST THE
REGIME. ADDITIONALLY, CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL
AND PRIME MINISTER NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI HAS BEEN NAMED MINISTER OF
DEFENSE AND WILL BE ASSISTED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN

.
THESE DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON AUGUST 17 BY THE POLITBURO, OF THE
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN (PDPA) ACCORDING TO THE
RADIO AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCEMENT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 210546

2. COMMENT. GENERAL QADER HAS GENERALLY BEEN CONSIDERED AS MORE
NATIONALISTIC THAN MOST OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS REGIME'S
LEADERSHIP, AND HE REPORTEDLY RESENTED AND RESISTED THE EXTENT OF
THE SOVIET INTRUSION INTO THE AFGHAN MILITARY. OUR INITIAL
ANALYSIS OF THESE EVENTS SUGGESTS THAT THE REGIME'S MOVE AGAINST HIM
REPRESESTS A CALCULATED GAMBLE THAT TARAKI AND HIS SUPPORTERS
CAN WITHSTAND WHATEVER CHALLENGE THE RANK AND FILE MILITARY MAY

MOUNT IN RESPONSE TO THE SACKING OF A KEY MILITARY LEADER OF THE APRIL REVOLUTION (QADER DELIVERED THE AIR FORCE IN THE OVERTHROW OF FORMER PRESIDENT DAOUD).

3. THESE MILITARY LEADERS MAY, IN FACT, HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN AN ANTI-REGIME PLOT WHICH THE REGIME MAY HAVE PERCEIVED AS A GENUINE AND SERIOUS THREAT. OTHER MEMBERS OF SUCH A GROUP MAY DECIDE TO MAKE THEIR MOVE SOON, BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, WITHOUT LEADERSHIP THEY MAY DECIDE THAT THE EFFORT WOULD BE USELESS.

4. FOR SEVERAL DAYS THE RUMOR HAS BEEN MAKING THE ROUNDS THAT TARAKI MADE A BRIEF TRIP TO MOSCOW SOMETIME BETWEEN AUGUST 10 AND 14 IN ORDER TO CONSULT THE SOVIETS ON INTERNAL SECURITY MATTERS. THIS THESIS IS ONE THAT HAS BEEN REPEATED TO US BY OUR CHINESE COLLEAGUES HERE, WHO HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY BELIEVE IT. IF IT IS CONFIRMED THAT TARAKI DID TRAVEL TO MOSCOW IT MUST SURELY HAVE BEEN TO CONSULT ON THE REMOVAL OF QADER.

5. THROUGHOUT TODAY (AUGUST 17) THE MILITARY FORCES IN KABUL HAVE APPEARED TO BE ON A SLIGHTLY HIGHER STATE OF ALERT, BUT AT THE MOMENT THE CITY REMAINS QUIET AND WE HAVE NOT YET HEARD ANY EVIDENCE OF ANY VIOLENCE. HOWEVER, TANKS AT RADIO AFGHANISTAN NEAR THE EMBASSY ARE REPORTELY OCCUPIED BY CREWS AS OF 10 P.M.

SIGCEN NOTE: MCN'S WILL BE FURNISHED NEXT OOB. UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ARRESTS, PLOTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE210546
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFTEFFT
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780338-1131
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780847/aaaabnbz.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f850e360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1690879
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUP PLOTTERS ARRESTED
TAGS: PINS, PINR, AF, (QADER, ABDUL), (SHAHPOOR), (AKBAR, MIR ALI)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f850e360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014